

## Wildlife Crediting for BPA's Fish and Wildlife Program

(data as of 10/15/2011)

Report Type: Dam Crediting Summary

#### General Information on BPA's Wildlife Mitigation Program

BPA is responsible for mitigating the impacts to wildlife caused by the development of the dams of the Federal Columbia River Power System (FCRPS). These impacts have been quantified by the Northwest Power and Conservation Council through the completion of "impact assessments" for each dam. Through the use of the Habitat Evaluation Procedure (HEP), impact assessments, which are also referred to as loss assessments, identify the "habitat units" that were lost due to construction and inundation behind the dams.

The Habitat Evaluation Procedure (HEP) is a species/habitat approach to impact assessment. Under HEP, "target" wildlife species are identified, along with the optimal habitat conditions for that species. Habitat quality for each target species is documented with an index, the Habitat Suitability Index (HSI). HSI values range from 0.0 to 1.0, with 1.0 representing optimal habitat conditions. When a parcel of land is evaluated under HEP, the HSI values are determined, and then the HSI values are multiplied by area of available habitat to obtain Habitat Units (HUs) for each target species. The target species included in the loss assessments for the FCRPS were selected by the biologists who conducted the assessments. More than one species may be used as a target species to determine the impact to a particular habitat type.

As BPA implements wildlife mitigation activities, it takes credit for its effort. Wildlife mitigation actions include land acquisition and management, habitat restoration and improvement, weed control, fencing, and other wildlife conservation actions. The HUs associated with the mitigation activity are measured or estimated and then counted against the impact assessment for the dam being mitigated, creating a "ledger" of habitat credits and losses. BPA takes one HU of credit for each HU it mitigates. While the impact assessments, or losses, should not change, the habitat credits will continually be updated as mitigation activities are implemented and as surveys are performed.

For each wildlife property acquisition, a baseline Habitat Evaluation Procedure (HEP) survey is done shortly after acquisition to determine the number of HUs associated with the acquisition. These HUs are referred to as the HUs that are protected by the acquisition. After acquisition, BPA often provides funding to project proponents to enhance or maintain the property. The Regional HEP team will periodically perform HEP surveys on the properties during the enhancement or maintenance phases to track changes in the number of HUs. If the HUs have increased, the additional HUs are referred to as enhanced HUs. BPA may also provide funding to project proponents to enhance properties that are protected for wildlife but were not acquired through the BPA wildlife mitigation program, for example, state-owned wildlife management areas. In this situation, BPA would perform a baseline HEP survey prior to the enhancement activity and "follow-up" HEP surveys as and after the enhancement activities are implemented. BPA would only take credit for the HUs associated with the enhancement, or the enhanced HUs.

For additional information on BPA's Wildlife Mitigation Program and wildlife crediting, see <a href="http://www.efw.bpa.gov/IntegratedFWP/Wildlife.aspx">http://www.efw.bpa.gov/IntegratedFWP/Wildlife.aspx</a>



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This report summarizes Habitat Units (HUs) lost, gained, and protected over the life of BPA's Wildlife Mitigation Program, by Federal Columbia River Power System (FCRPS) dam. This data comes from the wildlife crediting tab in Pisces. Other reports provide more detail, such as a breakdown of HUs by wildlife management area and parcel, or HUs by wildlife species. Dams where BPA's wildlife mitigation obligations have been settled, such as Libby and Dworshak, are not listed in this report.

For definitions of wildlife crediting terms used in this report, see <a href="http://www.efw.bpa.gov/IntegratedFWP/wildlifeglossary.aspx">http://www.efw.bpa.gov/IntegratedFWP/wildlifeglossary.aspx</a>

Dam	Lost HUs	Gained HUs	Minimum Estimated HUs (1)	Protected HUs	Enhanced HUs	Total HUs (Minimum Estimated + Protected + Enhanced HUs)	% Mitigated (Total HUs/Lost HUs)
<credit pool=""></credit>	-	-	-	-	-	0	0.0 %
Albeni Falls	28,658	171	4,556	7,044	2,450	14,050	49.0 %
Anderson Ranch	9,619	0	574	846	0	1,420	14.8 %
Big Cliff	413	40	32	-	-	32	7.7 %
Black Canyon	2,170	76	-	57	0	57	2.6 %
Bonneville OR	6,159	1,335	-	590	0	590	9.6 %
Bonneville WA	6,159	1,335	-	1,485	740	2,225	36.1 %
Chief Joseph	8,833	1,440	-	10,981	46	11,027	124.8 %
Cougar	11,124	1,637	276	511	0	787	7.1 %
Detroit	11,298	3,233	1,955	-	-	1,955	17.3 %
Dexter	6,648	1,214	15	181	0	196	2.9 %
Foster	3,544	926	96	-	-	96	2.7 %
Grand Coulee	111,785	0	-	112,316	12,783	125,099	111.9 %
Green Peter	16,432	4,742	-	-	-	0	0.0 %
Hills Creek	19,489	853	5	994	0	999	5.1 %
John Day OR	18,280	7,199	-	18,976	0	18,976	103.8 %
John Day WA	18,280	7,199	-	11,602	1,169	12,771	69.9 %
Lookout Point	25,454	2,636	1,436	-	-	1,436	5.6 %
Lower Snake	26,775	0	1,151	35,817	1,181	38,149	142.5 %
McNary OR	4,710	2,749	-	7,906	751	8,657	183.8 %
McNary WA	18,834	10,995	-	34,259	638	34,897	185.3 %
Minidoka	10,503	5,129	226	3,327	1,583	5,136	48.9 %



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Dam	Lost HUs	Gained HUs	Minimum Estimated HUs (1)	Protected HUs	Enhanced HUs	Total HUs (Minimum Estimated + Protected + Enhanced HUs)	•
Palisades	37,070	0	-	15,739	0	15,739	42.5 %
The Dalles OR	1,165	289	-	-	-	0	0.0 %
The Dalles WA	1,165	289	-	377	0	377	32.4 %
Total	404,567	53,487	10,322	263,008	21,341	294,671	72.8 %

#### Footnotes:

1. Minimum Estimated HUs are only shown for parcels without baseline HEP Surveys.

This report summarizes 25 data records that are available for download and

independent analysis in <u>structured text format</u> (.TXT) and in <u>Excel 2003</u> (.XLS) format.